# <u>Houston, Texas, Code of Ordinances</u> >> <u>- CODE OF ORDINANCES</u> >> <u>Chapter 45 - TRAFFIC</u> >> <u>ARTICLE III. -</u> TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS >>

#### **ARTICLE III. - TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

Sec. 45-56. - "Hazardous materials" defined.

Sec. 45-57. - Transportation upon freeways within boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2.

Sec. 45-58. - Transportation on routes encompassed by Loop 610.

Secs. 45-59-45-70. - Reserved.

### Sec. 45-56. - "Hazardous materials" defined.

For the purposes of this article "hazardous materials" are defined as including the following:

(1)

Acids and other corrosive liquids. Corrosive liquids are those acids, alkaline caustic liquids and other corrosive liquids which, when in contact with living tissue, will cause severe damage of such tissue by chemical action; or in case of leakage, will materially damage or destroy other freight by chemical action; or are liable to cause fire when in contact with organic matter or with certain chemicals.

(2)

Class "A" poisons. Class "A" poisons are poisonous gases or liquids of such nature that a very small amount of the gas or vapor of the liquid, mixed with air is dangerous to life. This class includes, not by way of limitation, but by way of example only, the following:

a.

Bromacetone.

b.

Cyanogen.

C.

Cyanogen chloride containing less than 0.9 percent water.

d.

Diphosgene.

e.

Ethyldichlorarsine.

f.

Hydrocyanic acid; provided, however, that diluted solutions of hydrocyanic acid of not exceeding five percent strength are not class "A" poisons.

g.

Lewisite.

h.

Methyldichlorarsine.

i.

Mustard gas.

j.

Nitrogen peroxide (tetroxide).

k.

Phenylcarbylamine chloride.

I.

Phosgene (diphosgene).

n.

Nitrogen tetroxide-nitric oxide mixtures containing up to 33.2 percent weight nitric oxide.

(3)

Class "B" poisons. Class "B" poisons are those substances, liquid or solid (including pastes and semi-solids) other than class "A" poisons, which are known to be so toxic to man as to afford a hazard to health during transportation, or which, in the absence of adequate data on human toxicity, are presumed to be toxic to man.

(4)

*Explosive.* An explosive is defined as any chemical compound, mixture, or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, *i.e.*, with substantially instantaneous release of gas and heat, unless such compound, mixture, or device is otherwise specifically classified.

(5)

Flammable compressed gas. A flammable compressed gas is any compressed gas that is so classified by section 173.300 of the Regulations of the Department of Transportation Governing the Transportation of Dangerous Articles in Tank Motor Vehicles, dated September, 1967.

(6)

Flammable liquid. A flammable liquid is any liquid which gives off flammable vapors (as determined by flash point from Tagliabue's open-cup tester, as used for test of burning oils) at or below a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Pyroforic liquids that become self-igniting when exposed to air are flammable liquids.

Flammable solid. A flammable solid is any solid material, other than one classified as an explosive, which, under conditions incident to transportation, is liable to cause fires through friction, absorption of moisture, spontaneous chemical changes, retained heat from manufacturing or processing, or which can be ignited readily and when ignited burns so vigorously and persistently as to create a serious transportation hazard; such as, not by way of limitation, but by way of example only, certain metallic hydrides, metallic sodium and potassium, and certain oily fabrics, processed meals, and nitrocellulose product.

Non-flammable compressed gas. A nonflammable compressed gas is any compressed gas which is poisonous to human beings or which has asphyxiating or toxic effect to human beings.

Oxidizing material. An oxidizing material is a substance such as a chlorate, permanganate, peroxide, nitro carbo nitrate, or a nitrate that yields oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of organic matter.

Radioactive materials. Radioactive materials include any nuclear or fissionable material, radioactive or waste that have external radiation requiring critical safety control.

(Code 1968, § 46-77; Ord. No. 70-280, § 1, 3-4-70)

(8)

(9)

(10)

## Sec. 45-57. - Transportation upon freeways within boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2.

It shall be unlawful for any truck transporting a cargo of over 100 gallons or over 1,000 pounds of hazardous materials, as herein defined, to travel upon any of the elevated freeways of the city within the boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2 as such boundaries existed on December 1, 1969; provided, however, explosives, as herein defined, shall be strictly prohibited in any quantity, upon such elevated freeways within the boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2, and provided, further, however, the prohibition herein contained shall not apply to trucks operated by the fire department of the city carrying supplies of gasoline or other fuels to the scene of fire alarms.

(Code 1968, § 46-78; Ord. No. 70-280, § 1, 3-4-70)

## Sec. 45-58. - Transportation on routes encompassed by Loop 610.

(a)

No truck transporting hazardous materials shall use any route or be driven on any street within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610-North, West, South and East unless:

Such truck is being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 where the cargo of such truck is intended to be loaded or unloaded; or

Such truck is being driven to or from the property of the motor carrier owning such truck or under whose contract the truck is being driven and such property is located within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610; or

Such truck is being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 designated as a safe haven in accordance with federal law and supporting regulations where such truck is to be parked or was parked for a period of not less than four hours.

Provided, however, trucks transporting hazardous materials may travel on Loop 610-North, West, South and East.

Proof that a truck transporting hazardous materials was within that portion of the city that is encompassed by Loop 610-North, West, South and East shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of this section; but the owner or operator of such truck shall have the right to introduce evidence to show that the truck was being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 as authorized by subsection (a).

(Code 1968, § 46-79; Ord. No. 76-2098, § 1, 12-7-76)

(b)